Forest Hills Cemetery

JAMAICA PLAIN,
MASS.
1925

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RULES REGULATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

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FOREST HILLS CEMETERY

Forest Hills Cemetery, of 260 acres, was consecrated in 1848, and is now one of the most beautiful cemeteries in the United States. It is conveniently located in that part of Boston now called Forest Hills.*

It is about five miles south of the State House and lies in a region noted for its beauty, Franklin Park and the Arnold Arboretum being near neighbors. It is easily accessible by steam and elevated trains or by park roads from the heart of the city.

Forest Hills Cemetery is managed by a Board of Trustees, who receive no compensation and are elected by the Proprietors, each lot owner being a Proprietor. It is well kept with most attractive landscape features, and offers every inducement to those who desire a suitable burial place where future care is assured. The Cemetery is equipped to do planting and all other work on lots except the erection of monumental work, and has its own greenhouses and nurseries.

Burial lots, including perpetual care of grass, vary in price according to size and location. There is a large assortment to choose from which may be seen upon application at the Cemetery. The selection varies from high and sightly land to restful, secluded spots among the pines and a suitable location to please the varying tastes of the individual is available.

The Crematory, which includes a chapel and Columbarium, is pleasantly situated opposite the gate to the Cemetery on Walk Hill Street.

The officials at the Cemetery are always glad to co-operate with lot owners or prospective lot owners, give full information in regard to Cremation, or other matters of interest.

HENRY S. ADAMS, *Treas.-Supt.*

*Postoffice address, Jamaica Plain, Mass. Office Hours, 8.30 a. m. to 4.30 p. m. Sundays and Holidays 10 a. m. to 12 noon. Cemetery telephone Jam. 0128. Crematory telephone, Jam. 0239.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

THE CEMETERY gates will be opened at seven o'clock in the morning, and closed at sunset.

Children are not admitted unless accompanied by adults.

Dogs will not be allowed in the Cemetery unless leashed. No firearms will be allowed except at military funerals.

Fast driving will not be permitted, and vehicles must not be turned in the avenues. Horses must not be left unattended, or hitched to trees. Horseback riding is allowed only on avenues. Automobiles must not pass a funeral procession, nor lot where services are being held.

Drivers and chauffeurs must remain by their vehicles and no loud conversation or smoking will be allowed during funeral services. Undertakers will be held responsible for the enforcement of this rule and for any improper conduct on the part of the drivers or chauffeurs while in the Cemetery.

Motorcycles are excluded.

Flowers must not be brought into the grounds except for decoration and must not be carried out under any pretense whatever, except by permission of the Superintendent. Flowers,

wreaths, etc., left on graves or lots will be removed as soon as possible after they fade or become unsightly. The Corporation will not be held responsible for anything left on lots.

Visitors must not injure trees or shrubs, nor pick flowers, and in all cases must observe the proprieties of the Cemetery. Cameras are not allowed except by permission. Soliciting business in the Cemetery is prohibited.

Any person disturbing the peace by noise, fast driving, or any improper conduct, or who shall violate any of the rules will be compelled to leave the grounds and will be reported to the Board of Trustees.

BURIAL LOTS

Persons desirous of purchasing a burial lot should apply to the officials at the Cemetery. No interment will be allowed in a lot until it is paid for.

Arrangements may be made for the perpetual care of flowers, myrtle graves, stone-work, and grass on old lots. It is hoped that this will be done wherever possible thus providing for the future and avoiding the necessity of annual payments.

Terms for the annual care of lots not under perpetual care may be ascertained on application at the office. The charges for planting beds with summer flowering plants, as geraniums, begonias, etc., or with bulbs or pansies vary from $7 to $12 for the usual sizes. Larger plantings, however, can be made if desired at prices depending on planting desired. The charges for planting graves vary from $7 to $12. Mrytle, Pachysandra or Euonymus will be planted on large graves for $15, with an annual charge for care of $5, less for small graves. Suggestions in re-

gard to suitable planting for lots or graves will be gladly given as well as detailed information in regard to prices, etc.

All orders for work should be in writing, and must be done by the employees of the Cemetery or under the supervision of the Superintendent. Trees or shrubs must not be planted or removed without his approval.

No work will be done on any lot upon which there remains, on the first of April, an unpaid bill of any preceding year.

SINGLE GRAVES

SINGLE graves are obtainable in one of the new and attractively laid out sections of the Cemetery. The price $75 includes perpetual care of the grass. A second burial may be made in these graves on payment of $25 in addition to the usual interment fees.

All single graves are sold with the restriction that not more than two adults or one adult and two children under five years of age, whether cremated or not, will be allowed to be interred in the grave. The size of the headstone to be erected is also restricted.

Whenever a single grave becomes vacant by the removal of the body or bodies interred therein, it shall revert to the Corporation. But in case the owner thereof or his representative purchases a lot of the Corporation, the original price of the grave or graves shall be allowed in part payment for the lot upon surrender of the certificate. These graves are not transferable.

No enclosures, posts, urns or seats will be allowed in any of the single grave sections. Raised mounds are not permitted.

The planting of myrtle or flowers upon graves should be done by the Cemetery.

The charge for raising and seeding a sunken grave in the old sections is $5.00. This charge does not include any after care. Arrangements should be made to place old single graves under perpetual care of the grass, the charge for which is $30, including regrading and seeding.

The charges for work on single graves are payable in advance.

INTERMENTS

Undertakers are required to have all interment orders signed by the proprietor, or the legal representative of the lot, and accompanied by necessary burial permit before interment can be made.

Orders should be given at the Cemetery at least twenty-four hours before the time of interment. It is important that the proprietor or representative of a lot should give personal attention to the location of graves.

Funerals on arrival at the Cemetery shall be under the charge of the Superintendent or his assistants.

CHAPEL

Our Chapel at the Cemetery is convenient to reach and well equipped. Its homelike atmosphere makes it well adapted for funeral services. The use of the organ is included in the charge. The Chapel at the Crematory may be used in connection with Cremations when desired.

RECEIVING TOMB

The Remains of persons dying of any contagious disease will not be deposited in the receiving tomb unless the casket is properly sealed.

Removals will not be made without a signed order from the applicant or other properly authorized person.

If the established charges for the use of the receiving tomb are not paid, the Committee on Cemetery, after three months of such neglect, have the authority to remove the body in question to that part of the Cemetery set aside for unclaimed bodies.

REMOVALS

Removals will not be made without a signed order from the owner of lot or grave.

Removals from lots to go outside of Cemetery must be approved by the Trustees.

Removals will not be made on Saturday afternoons, Sundays, or holidays.

CHARGES

All Charges are payable in advance. Full information pertaining to these matters on application.

CREMATION

THE REQUIREMENTS in the case of a cremation are simple and known to every undertaker.

One who has not visited the crematory will be interested to know how a cremation is conducted. The crematory was formerly owned by the Massachusetts Cremation Society. It is pleasantly situated in quiet and attractive grounds opposite the Walk Hill Street Entrance to the Cemetery proper. Upon arrival at the crematory if there are to be services in the chapel, the casket is placed on a catafalque in front of a platform. After the services it is noiselessly wheeled into the adjoining room and the metal handles and plate which would interfere with the cremation are removed.

In the tiled wall of this room are doors opening into the retorts which are chambers of fire brick, slightly larger than the casket. In one of these the casket containing the body undisturbed is carefully placed and the door closed and locked. Incineration is rapidly accomplished by clear jets of flame producing a temperature of 1,800 or 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit. The air used in creating the flame is driven by a fan and blower operated by electric power.

The incineration takes about one hour and a half, and the ashes can then, in case of need, be removed at once, but the cemetery prefers to allow the retort to cool and to deliver the ashes the next day. Only the ashes of the bones remain. All else, including the casket, has disappeared in light ash or gaseous products and the urn contains about four pounds of pure ashes, the truest interpretation of "Ashes to ashes, dust to dust." As

has been well said, "Between burial and burning there is no difference in the final result. The difference is in the process. The inevitable is wrought in the one case quickly, in the other slowly; in the one by the action of clean flame, in the other by the action of damp earth."

Each of us has an opportunity to decide whether one prefers cremation before burial and to give directions for the guidance of relatives and friends in case of death.

Those who believe in cremation should ascertain the wishes of their friends. A calm consideration of the matter beforehand is often better than a decision when the mind is oppressed with grief.

Cremation accomplishes in a moment that which we do not like to contemplate but which we all know is taking place in the grave—the necessary dissolution of the human body. That which we once loved must inevitably return to its original elements.

Let us give this matter serious thought, approaching it calmly before the emergency arises and we are torn with grief over the departure of some loved one.

There is a swift resolution into original elements, thereafter no possible desecration or disturbance. For our friends, though the outward forms were dear to us, though we combat the custom of centuries, we may prefer it. Once convinced we need to deal very tenderly and carefully with those who do not agree with us. We are dealing with some of the deepest and most powerful of human emotions.

GROWTH OF CREMATION

Cremation in Massachusetts

The Constant and steady growth of cremation in Massachusetts is shown by the following table which gives the cremations since December 30, 1893, the date of the first cremation.

1894	87
1895	88
1896	135
1897	160
1898	167
1899	230
1900	238
1901	290
1902	353
1903	377
1904	391
1905	410
1906	401
1907	486
1908	518
1909	530
1910	554
1911	651
1912	684
1913	692
1914	754
1915	753
1916	890

1917	898
1918	1056
1919	929
1920	1046
1921	900
1922	1007
1923	1084
1924	
1924	1055

REQUEST FOR CREMATION

A FORM of request for cremation has been prepared to enable those who approve of cremation to formally express their judgment and desire. Three copies should be signed and one copy should be mailed to the Forest Hills Cemetery, Jamaica Plain, Mass. Another copy should be placed in the hands of the executor or next of kin, or of some friend who will see to the carrying out of the signer's wish, and the third copy kept with one's private papers. We particularly advise that when traveling such a request, signed and witnessed, be carried with one's passport and private papers.

FORM

In the firm belief that the general welfare will be promoted by the substitution of incineration for burial as a means of disposing of the dead, I hereby solemnly express my desire and request that, as soon as practicable after my decease, my body may be cremated at the crematorium of Forest Hills Cemetery, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Signed this.....day of.....19....

.....

Address

.....

Witness

.....

Address

.....

A copy of this form will be sent on application.

INCINERATION CERTIFICATES

For Those who believe in cremation and wish to provide for it by prepayment, the Cemetery is prepared to issue certificates of prepayment on receipt of Thirty-five Dollars, the fee for cremation. These certificates, called "Incineration Certificates," provide that this Cemetery will, upon request and the presentation of this certificate and of the papers required by law, incinerate the remains of the holder at its Crematory.

MASSACHUSETTS LAW REGARDING CREMATION

For the Benefit of those who may be interested in the law in regard to cremation, reference to the statutes and regulations are given below.

The General Laws of 1921, Chapter 114, Sections 6 to 9, cover the formation of corporations for cremation and provide that regulations in regard to cremation shall be made by the State Department of Public Health. Section 44 gives the requirements in regard to the cremation of persons who have died in Massachusetts and provides that in the case of deaths outside Massachusetts the regulations made by the State Department of Public Health shall govern. General Laws, Chapter 38, Section 16, provides for the fees to be charged by medical examiners. Regulations made December 5, 1907, and October 29, 1918, by the Massachusetts States Department of Public Health govern cases where the death has occurred outside of Massachusetts.

The requirements of these laws and regulations are covered by the instructions for cremation in this pamphlet.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CREMATION

All Applications for cremation should be made at the crematory, or at the office of the Cemetery.

As directed by the statutes and regulations, the Cemetery requires the following:

1. The usual burial permit.

2. The certificate of a Massachusetts medical examiner that he has viewed the body, made personal inquiry into the cause and manner of death, and is of the opinion that no further examination or judicial inquiry is necessary. The Cemetery prefers the certificate of the medical examiner within whose district the death occurred.

This certificate is *not* required when the death occurred outside Massachusetts more than ten years prior to the time of cremation.

3. If the body comes from without this Commonwealth and is transported by a common carrier, the usual transit permit.

In giving an order for cremation, state the date and hour of death, bearing in mind that the law requires that forty-eight (48) hours must elapse before cremation, except for *contagious* and *infectious diseases*, in which cases this fact must be so stated in the certificate. The certificate should use one or both of the italicized words as this Cemetery will not take the responsibility of deciding what diseases are contagious or infectious. The medical examiner's certificate, and all affidavits, in cases where they are required must be brought to the crematory with the fee for cremation.

An authority to the Cemetery, either in the form of a letter requesting and authorizing the cremation, or on a blank furnished

by the Cemetery, should be signed by the nearest relative or legal representative and by the undertaker. Directions for the disposition of the ashes may be given on this blank.

When bodies come from a distance, arrangements may be made by the local undertaker with any of the Boston undertakers to meet the train and take charge of the cremation.

The most direct way to reach the crematory is by the Boston Elevated Railway to the Forest Hills Station, changing to Hyde Park Avenue cars to Walk Hill Street which is less than five minutes walk from the Crematory.

The charges for cremation are as follows:

For an adult	$35.00
For a child under ten	25.00
From five to six P. M., an extra charge of	5.00
After six P. M., an extra charge of	10.00

Except in unusual circumstances, the Cemetery will not cremate on Sundays or holidays. In case of such cremation an extra charge of $10 is made.

The medical examiner makes a charge of $7.00 for his services and certificate. This charge will not be paid by the Cemetery.

The Cemetery recommends that the body be dressed very simply and without metallic objects. In all cases the Cemetery prefers to incinerate the body in the coffin as received and requests that one or two witnesses selected by the family should be present during at least part of the incineration.

The Ashes are ready for delivery to the representative of the deceased on the day following that of incineration. In cases of emergency, however, the delivery can be made in from four to five hours after the beginning of the incineration.

The Ashes are placed in a metal cylinder which is furnished without extra expense. A copper cylinder is to be preferred and costs but little extra. The ashes are best placed in bronze urns which are of beautiful design and when suitably marked make permanent receptacles. They may then be placed in a small underground vault in a cemetery lot which makes the most satisfactory and permanent disposition.

Sleepy Hollow in the Cemetery has been especially arranged for the burial of ashes. Here the natural beauty of the landscape has been preserved and with memorial stones carefully designed, simple and dignified, the quiet peaceful atmosphere is unequalled. Reclining tablets large enough for one or more inscriptions are recommended in this section.

A visit to the Cemetery is advised where full information regarding these matters will be given and the locations shown.

If one is not prepared to bury the ashes they may be placed under annual care in the columbarium at the Crematory, placed in the general repository for perpetual care on payment of $25, or a niche in the columbarium may be purchased.

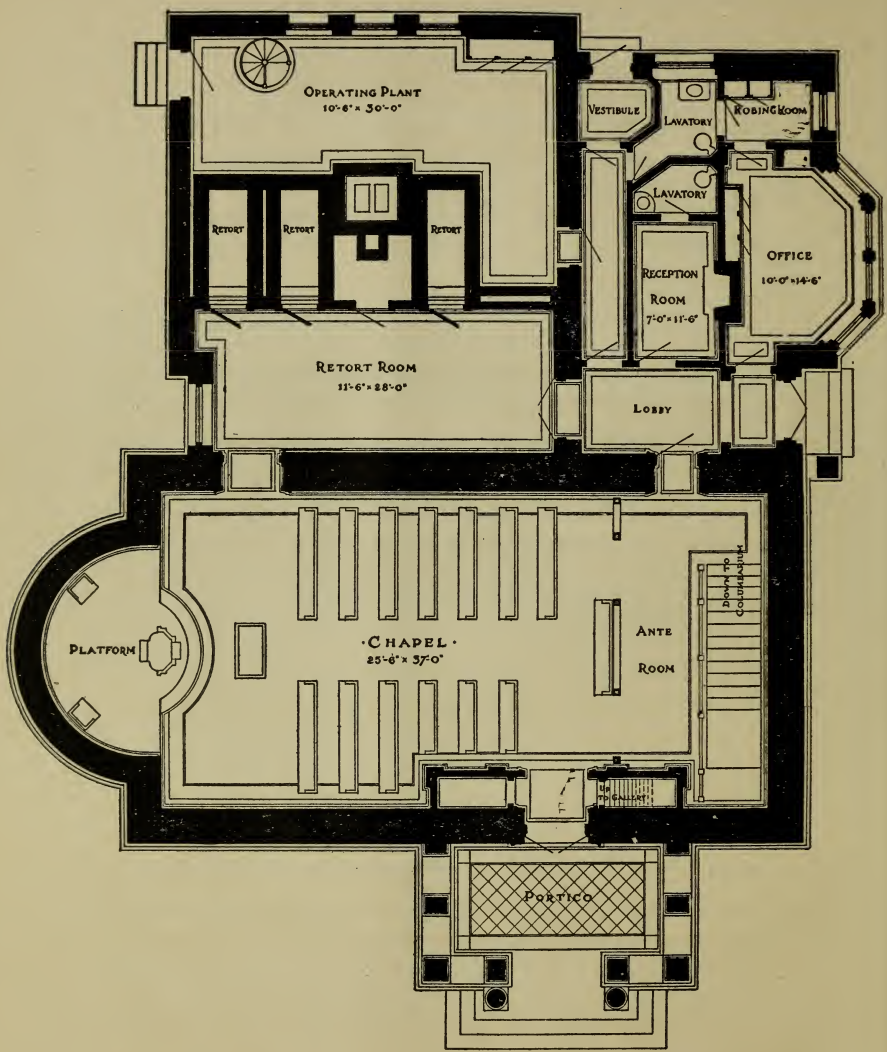
Each niche is closed by an individual gate with name plate and holds, according to capacity, from one to twenty urns. Each purchaser receives a deed of his niche in perpetuity, subject to certain limitations and conditions designed to secure the Cemetery and all niche owners against anything which would interfere with the orderly and permanent development of the columbarium.

It is recommended that persons desiring to purchase a niche should visit the columbarium and see precisely what they are buying.

WHERE A NICHE is not purchased or perpetual care provided for, ashes are kept in the general repository gratuitously for 90 days and at a charge of $3 per year thereafter.

The crematory buildings are open for visitors every week day, except holidays, from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M., and Sundays from 11 A. M. to 4 P. M.

It is suggested that notices of services and of cremation should make it clear that the crematory is not within the grounds of the Cemetery proper. An accurate form is Crematory Chapel, Forest Hills Cemetery, 171 Walk Hill Street, Forest Hills.



CREMATORY, FOREST HILLS CEMETERY
GROUND PLAN

MEMORIALS

No MONUMENT shall be erected upon a lot the bottom base of which covers more than 8% of the area of the lot. The length of the monument shall not exceed 40% of the width of the lot.*

No headstones, curbings, corner posts above grade, platforms, steps, buttresses, settees or vases, except flower holders, will be allowed. Markers flush with the ground may be used if desired. These markers must have rounded edges and a twelve inch butt. Flush markers are sufficient for the purpose of marking graves and as all stones above grade detract from the beauty of the Cemetery and serve no additional purpose they are not allowed.

Designs, locations and material for all monuments and markers, or other structures must be submitted to the Superintendent for approval.

Headstones on single graves in single grave sections must be of granite, flush with the ground, with rounded edges and not over two feet long by one foot thick with a twelve inch butt. At the head of two or more graves a granite headstone not over three feet long by one foot thick and three feet high may be erected.

All foundations are located and built by the Cemetery of Portland cement concrete and finished at least 2 inches below grade, for markers 12 inches below grade.

All Orders for foundations must be signed by the proprietor of the lot or grave and all charges are payable in advance. Foundations will not be built between December first and May first.

*Exceptions to the above rule:

When the monument is placed in the rear of a lot more than ten feet wide 60% of the width of the lot may be allowed, provided it does not exceed 5% of the area of the lot.

On lots eight feet wide or less 50% of the width of the lot is allowed.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

The Record of deeds kept at the office of the Corporation at the Cemetery is the only evidence of the Proprietor's title recognized by the Trustees. When a person receives a lot by transfer from a Proprietor he should send his deed for record.

The attention of lot owners is called to the desirability of deeding lots in trust to the Cemetery.

The officials at the Cemetery will give prompt attention to all requests of lot owners. In case of lack of courtesy on the part of any employee the matter should be reported at once to the Superintendent.

Regulations, order blanks, etc., in regard to interments, foundations, stone-work, etc., may be obtained at the office.

Elevated trains through the Washington Street Tunnel provide the quickest route from Boston to Forest Hills and connections may be made with all surface lines at the various transfer stations. Railway trains may be taken at the South Terminal or the Back Bay Station.

The Tower Street entrance is the nearest for pedestrians from Forest Hills and leads directly to the Cemetery and chapel.

Visitors to the Crematory will find Walk Hill Street reached by Hyde Park Avenue cars at the Forest Hills Terminal. The most direct way to reach the Crematory is by the Hyde Park Avenue cars at the Forest Hills Terminal.

A map of the Cemetery is free on application at the office.

Full information in regard to any matters of the Cemetery Management, etc. may be obtained at the office either in person, by telephone or correspondence.

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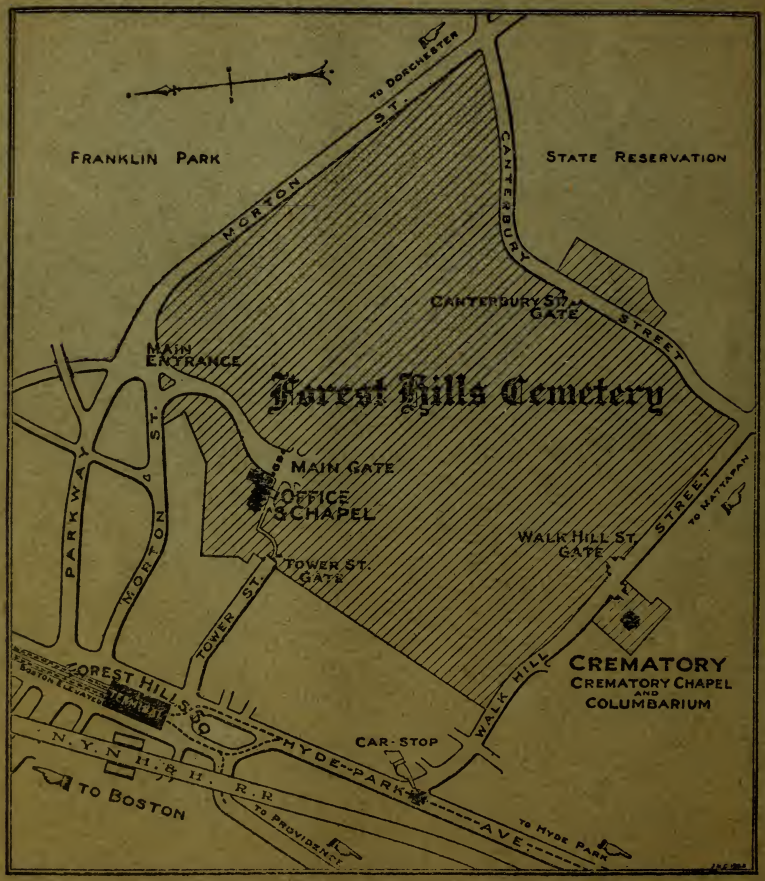

HOW TO REACH CEMETERY AND CREMATORY
FROM FOREST HILLS SQUARE